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10/10/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Timothy D. Evans et al.	:	Art Unit: 1731
Application No.:	09/700,475	:	Examiner: M. Steve Alvo
Filed:	January 11, 2001	:	
FOR:	PEROXIDE, OXYGEN, AND PEROXIDE/OXYGEN BRIGHTENING OF CHEMICAL AND MIXED WASTE PULPS	:	37 C.F.R. § 1.116
		:	EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
		:	

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 23, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action of **April 23, 2002**, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the remarks provided below.

REMARKS

Interview Summary

Applicants appreciate the courtesy shown their representative, Pamela Politis, in a telephonic interview on September 3, 2002. The Examiner and the applicants' representative discussed features of the invention that distinguish over the cited art. Specifically, the conversion of percent weight composition to an elemental mass ratio was presented in a draft to facilitate a comparison of cited art to the claim language, which recites an elemental mass ratio range for Mg:SiO₂.

In addition, the molecular weight of the silicates were discussed, as the instant claims recite that "at least 25% of silicates have a molecular weight of at least 10,000 Daltons." The Examiner indicated that the mass ratios and the molecular

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